

I am against the use of exposed or open line BPL. BPL poses a serious  
>problem for any user of the HF Spectrum. This would include Amateur Radio  
>Operators, Short Wave Listeners, Military and Transportation services. BPL  
>drowns out many AM broadcast stations on the 550 Khz. to 1700 Khz.  
>frequencies. The broadcasters will complain that they are not able to  
>reach the current market with  
>their advertising and programming.  
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>For example, in Emmaus, PA, where BPL has been already been placed into  
>service. Many listeners in Emmaus cannot hear KYW AM 1030 kcs. in  
>Philadelphia, running 50,000 watts power. BPL also renders the HF spectrum  
>useless to Amateur  
>Radio Operators within 100 meters of the exposed BPL lines.  
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>Currently Cable Services deliver similar services via "Closed Circuit"  
>cables and fiber optics. Leakage of the Cable Services into the HF  
>spectrum are severely dealt with by the FCC. Leakage if BPL into the HF  
>spectrum will not even be a violation as open wire cannot suppress leaking  
>of RF. If BPL is permitted, it should be only on shielded and filtered  
>lines, similar to those required  
>by the cable TV industry. RF signals are not supposed to escape from or  
>intrude into the cable TV lines. Radio signals can coexist with cable  
>signals even on the same frequencies. Havoc occurs when signals leak into  
>and out of the cables. Are the BPL users going to establish replacements  
>for the current amateur radio emergency communications stations?  
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>Currently, we hams frequently contend with noisy electric power lines,  
>hardware, and transformers which interfere with our reception. The FCC  
>requires the electric utilities to repair and clean up those lines. Our  
>local electric utilities, Met Ed and PPL, are very cooperative, compliant,  
>and helpful. Please do not allow any change by allowing "open wire BPL."  
>During emergencies, how  
>will we communicate?  
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>Even if BPL is turned off during emergencies, what hams will be left to  
>communicate? They will have quit in disgust, sold their equipment, and  
>dismantled their stations. The FCC must protect the non commercial  
>communications interests that invade the HF spectrum. To damage the HF  
>infrastructure of over 1 million licensed amateur radio operators, is to  
>remove the backbone of  
>emergency communications.  
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>There are better ways to accomplish the same goal that the power industry  
>is seeking. Lets build covered bridges around the problem, not clear the  
>village of all the infrastructure.